



Workshop on Operational Radiation Protection Programmes for Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities

Virtual Event

7-10 May 2024

Ref. No.: EVT2303693

Information Sheet

Introduction

The IAEA supports its Member States in establishing effective operational radiation protection programmes and continues its efforts to disseminate knowledge on continuous improvement of these programmes at nuclear installations, including nuclear fuel cycle facilities (NFCFs).

The IAEA Safety Standards Series No. SSR-4 “Safety of Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities” requires that the design of NFCFs shall ensure that radiation doses to workers and to members of the public are below authorized limits and that exposure to ionizing radiation and doses due to any discharges of radioactive material from the facility are kept as low as reasonably achievable in operational states and accident conditions through all stages of the facility’s lifetime.

Establishment of effective operational radiation protection programmes at NFCFs ensures the effective control of external and internal doses to workers and to the public and is a key part of demonstrating the safety of the NFCF during design, commissioning, operation, modification and decommissioning stages. These programmes include organizational aspects and personnel training, dose limits, dose constraints and means for optimization of safety and protection, measures for control of radiation exposure and contamination, including categorization and classification of areas, monitoring of workplaces, radiation monitoring equipment, and operating procedures.

Feedback from IAEA activities showed need to continue to pay attention to the effectiveness of the operational radiation protection programme, particularly with respect to contamination control and in planning and implementing modifications of the facility and processes.

In this context, the IAEA is organizing the Workshop on Operational Radiation Protection Programmes for Nuclear Fuel Cycle Facilities, to be held virtually via MS-Teams from 7 to 10 May 2024.

Objectives

The purpose of the event is to provide Member States with a forum for exchange of information and experience on development and implementation of operational radiation protection programmes at nuclear fuel cycle facilities.

Target Audience

Participation in the event is subject to designation by Governments or national organizations. The Technical Meeting is open to participants from all IAEA Member States that are involved in planning, construction, operation, preparation for the decommissioning or regulatory oversight of NFCFs. Personnel from technical support organizations may also participate in the event. Member States are invited to designate one or more participants to represent the Government at this event. Member States are strongly encouraged to identify suitable women participants.

The range of the NFCFs covered by the event includes facilities for the processing, refining, conversion, enrichment and fabrication of fuel; spent nuclear fuel storage and reprocessing; nuclear fuel cycle research and development facilities; and supporting facilities in which radioactive material is handled. Facilities for the mining and processing of natural ore and waste disposal facilities are outside the scope of the event.

Working Language(s)

The working language of the meeting will be English.

Topics

In addition to presentations by the IAEA representatives, the event will include presentations by the participants on their national practices and experiences in establishing programmes for operational radiation protection at NFCFs. The topics that are expected to be covered include:

- IAEA Safety Standards and its application to operational radiation protection;
- Considerations of radiation protection in the design of NFCFs;
- Elements of operational radiation protection programmes for NFCFs;
- Experience with developing and implementing radiation protection programmes in NFCFs;

- Optimization of safety and protection in operation and modification of NFCFs, including dose constraints;
- Control of contamination in NFCFs;
- Training on operational radiation protection;
- Regulatory oversight of operational radiation protection in NFCFs, including regulatory requirements, review and assessment and inspection;
- Application of a graded approach in planning and implementation of operational radiation protection programmes.

The presentations will be followed by technical discussions aiming to draw general conclusions on the topics discussed.

The workshop will also include discussions in working groups on actions to be taken by the participating organizations to enhance operational radiation protection at their NFCFs and outlines of an IAEA publication addressing experience of Member States in developing and implementing operational radiation protection programmes for NFCFs.

Participation and Registration

All persons wishing to participate in the event have to be designated by an IAEA Member State or should be members of organizations that have been invited to attend.

In order to be designated by an IAEA Member State, participants are requested to send the **Participation Form (Form A)** to their competent national authority (e.g. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Permanent Mission to the IAEA or National Atomic Energy Authority) for onward transmission to the IAEA by **22 March 2024**. Participants who are members of an organization invited to attend are requested to send the Participation Form (Form A) through their organization to the IAEA by the above deadline.

Selected participants will be informed in due course on the procedures to be followed with regard to administrative matters.

Participants are hereby informed that the personal data they submit will be processed in line with the [Agency's Personal Data and Privacy Policy](#) and is collected solely for the purpose(s) of reviewing and assessing the application and to complete logistical arrangements where required. The IAEA may also use the contact details of Applicants to inform them of the IAEA's scientific and technical publications, or the latest employment opportunities and current open vacancies at the IAEA. These secondary purposes are consistent with the IAEA's mandate.

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Subsequent correspondence on scientific matters should be sent to the Scientific Secretary, correspondence on other matters related to the event to the Administrative Secretary.

